

## No. 79834-6

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BY ROHALD R. CARENTER

# SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

### JAYSON LOREN EDWARD BUSH

Appellant,

VS.

## STATE OF WASHINGTON

Respondent.

# ERRATA TO PETITION ~ VERBATIM REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS DATED JANUARY 8, 2007

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1	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
2	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SPOKANE
3	
4	STATE OF WASHINGTON, )
5	Plaintiff, )
6	vs. No. 06-1-01206-3
7	JAYSON BUSH,
8	Defendant. )
9	
10	MEDDAMEN DEPODM OF PROCEEDINGS
11	VERBATIM REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS HONORABLE JEROME J. LEVEQUE
12	JANUARY 8, 2007
13	
14	APPEARANCES:
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THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. 1 morning we have -- I believe we have a gentleman on the 2 I think it's Mr. Mitchell from the Governor's 3 4 office; is that correct, sir? 5 MR. MITCHELL: Good morning, Your Honor. 6 present. 7 THE COURT: Good morning. Can you hear me okay? 8 MR. MITCHELL: I can. Thank you. 9 THE COURT: Before we go further, I don't see the mics. Are the mics out? I would like that's one mike. 10 11 the parties to say good morning and introduce themselves 12 to make sure that Mr. Mitchell can hear us. 13 Ms. Fitzgerald. 14 Thank you, Your Honor. MS. FITZGERALD: 15 For the record for the State of Washington, Kelly 16 Fitzgerald. 17 THE COURT: Ms. Polin. 18 MS. POLIN: Marla Polin. I will be handling this 19 hearing, as well as the trial. 20 THE COURT: Okay. Good morning. Mr. Trageser. 21 MR. TRAGESER: Tim Trageser, Your Honor, assisting 22 Ms. Conrad and, also, present, Mr. Bush. 23 THE COURT: Thank you. 24 Mr. Mitchell, could you hear those voices okay?

MR. MITCHELL: Yes, I can. Thank you.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. This is the matter before us this morning of the State of Washington versus Jayson Bush, cause number 06-1-01206-3.

We're here this morning on several matters. This is the day when we want to continue our jury selection process. The large jury pool has been sworn already, and some of the process has started.

In addition to that, and preliminarily we're at this point, we have Mr. Mitchell from the Governor's office on the line.

The reason -- I want to make a comment on the record. The reason, and the sole reason, for Mr. Mitchell's phone attendance, which is greatly appreciated by this Court, and I thank you for that cooperation, is to obtain some information of the defendant's concern that would relate directly to any due process issues as they involve this case and only this case, the due process issues that may arise in the cause number I just gave you, which is the trial we're now addressing.

In that regard, Mr. Mitchell, we are on the record. You are not going to be sworn. You're not being requested to be sworn, and I don't intend to swear you. This is simply to generate some information so that we can go forward and see where we are in this particular case, and with that understanding, I don't know which of the two

attorneys, Ms. Polin?

MS. POLIN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Ms. Polin may have some questions. Before we do that, Mr. Mitchell was under some significant time restraints. So to be as direct and brief as possible, I'm sure he'll appreciate that, as well as the Court; and, secondly, Mr. Mitchell, before we proceed, are there any comments that you want to make or any questions that you have?

MR. MITCHELL: Only a comment, and that is I will be somewhat circumspect if a question veers close to violate the attorney-client privilege.

THE COURT: And that would be appropriate to do that.

Now, Ms. Polin, I'm going to invite you to the podium
to ask questions at this time.

MS. POLIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

#### EXAMINATION

BY MS. POLIN:

- Q Good morning, Mr. Mitchell.
- A Good morning, Ms. Polin.
- Q As I had indicated earlier, I will be the attorney handling this hearing, as well as the trial, and I do appreciate you being present telephonically. I just have a few very brief questions for you.

As you're aware, the incident and date of this matter

was April 8, 2006. Mr. Bush was arraigned on the 18th, and at that time, trial was set for June 12, 2006. Were you aware of those dates?

A No, I wasn't.

- Q Okay. You did not review those in my letter that I sent?
- A They may have well have been those letters, but do they come to my mind now that states that I remembered, no.
- Q Okay. So, originally, trial was set within the speedy trial limits of the 60 days. I sent your office a brief letter notifying you that our office did, indeed, represent Mr. Bush and asked that all future correspondence be sent to our office, and that notice was dated May 4, 2006, the same date that I received the Governor's letter.

Do you have a copy of that, Mr. Mitchell?

- A I can attain a copy, but there's something in particular you'd like me to look at.
- Q Well, in the May 4th letter, the Governor advised that Mr. Bush would be -- his conditional commutation would be revoked if the charges were not dismissed as of May 30, 2006; is that correct?
- A Well, I think for the benefit of everyone who's listening would be advisable to quote the language.
- Q Okay.
  - A "As a direct consequence of your pending prosecution, I'm

writing to advise you that effective May 30, 2006, your conditional commutation is revoked subject only to showing -- a showing by you that charges against you have been dismissed prior to the effective date of this revocation."

- Q So, Mr. Mitchell, my initial question would be has Mr. Bush's conditional commutation officially been revoked?
- A As I wrote in my January 4, 2007 letter, yes.
- Q Okay. As of what date?
- A May 30, 2006.

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- Q Okay. And did you receive -- (pause) and did you receive,
  Mr. Mitchell, my letter dated May 10th?
- A Ms. Polin, I received quite a few letters from you. I am not rifling through those letters now. If you sent me a letter and I've responded, and I've received it.
- Q My file, my correspondence, and I'm showing the letter dated May 10th, May 17th, May 24th, August 4th and August 28th, December 12th, December 26th, January 3rd and January 4th. Does that sound about right to you?
- A Again, I'm not looking at all those letters, but if I responded to those letters and you sent them, then I've received them.
- Q And I do have before me a copy of your January 4, 2007 letter. That was your letter, correct? It's signed,

"Sincerely, Richard E. Mitchell, Melinda Campbell for Richard Mitchell?"

- A That letter, the January 4th letter, is, as I've indicated, in the second to last paragraph on the second page in response to I think no fewer than four letters from you in less than 30 days.
- Q Okay. Well, now, you said in less than 30 days, but you did receive my May 10th, May 17th and May 24th letters, correct?
- A If you look on the second page of that same letter, the first two paragraphs, it refers to those letters.
- Q Okay. So you did. The answer then would be, yes, you did receive my letters?
- A Yes, I received those letters, and I've responded.
  - Q So my next question would be you've indicated there was no communication from either me or my client prior to May 30th? I'm not really understanding that.
- A Your question is not well put. The question rather should be communication about dismissal of the charges prior to May 30th.
- Q Okay. So you are aware that Mr. Bush was scheduled for trial within speedy trial rights of June 12, 2006? That that was the original date of the trial set within the 60 day limit, and, yet, the Governor is now adding the caveat that those charges be dismissed prior to that speedy trial

date; is that correct?

- A Well, I'm not entirely sure what the purpose of your reference to the trial dates are. I'm only focused on the Governor's revocation letter, which says that charges had to be dismissed prior to May 30th, and she did write that, and you have received that.
- Q And that would have allowed for 26 days to have this case dismissed?
- A Again, I am not commenting on the dates of the trial. I'm commenting on the Governor's revocation letter.
- Q Okay. So based on the Governor's commutation letter dated May 4th, my calculation to May 30th would be 26 days to have this completed, correct?
- A Again, I'm commenting only on the Governor's letter.
- Q Okay. Well, my calculations are that that would give us 26 days. Are you aware that at that point, defendant had no discovery?
- A I'm not participating in the prosecution against your client. My client is the Governor, and I'm aware of what she wrote to your client.

THE COURT: Let me interject here. I think it's quite clear from Mr. Mitchell's comments and the record that we're establishing may be more directed to other issues than to the specific due process issues of this case.

What's important to the Court is I think been

developed, and that is that the Governor's letter is to be read, and the literal and factual reality of that letter I think is referenced in the letter of May 4, 2006 is pretty clear based upon the last sentence of that letter.

Is that -- the only question I have is that revocation, once done, a revocation that is absolute, it's over? The issue in your office is completed, and the revocation is in play and will stay in play?

MR. MITCHELL: That's correct, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: Regardless of the outcome of the case?

MR. MITCHELL: That revocation is complete. This does not preclude Mr. Bush from returning to the Clemency and Pardons Board.

Okay. When you say absolute, I'm a little cautious because it doesn't mean to preclude him from ever appearing before the board again.

THE COURT: That's good clarification. I appreciate that. What I was, specifically, inquiring into and, again, it relates only to the due process issues of having a complete understanding of the defendant and the other parties here so we know where we are.

Regardless of the outcome of this case, that revocation, other than your understanding, the outcome of this case will not affect that revocation as it now exists.

MR. MITCHELL: That's correct.

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THE COURT: Okay. That's what I need to know.

Do you have any further questions, Ms. Polin? We got to cut it short.

MS. POLIN: Just one brief question.

- Q (By Ms. Polin) Mr. Mitchell, are you aware that I did attempt, in fact, to go before the Board of Clemency and Pardons prior to the May 30th deadline?
- A We're talking about two different issues, Ms. Polin. I am aware of that, and I do recall Assistant General advising you that the Clemency and Pardons Board did not have authority to conduct a revocation hearing. The question being posed by the Court now is slightly different.

THE COURT: That's correct. It was a different question.

- Q (By Ms. Polin) So I would just then ask for clarification of if we do proceed to trial and Mr. Bush is acquitted, is his conditional commutation still in effect or would he still remain revoked?
- A It has been revoked.
  - THE COURT: And that's been answered. Do you have one more question?
- Q (By Ms. Polin) So he will remain revoked even if he is acquitted of these charges?

THE COURT: That was the response. He will remain

revoked. Is that correct, Mr. Mitchell?

MR. MITCHELL: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Yes. That's been answered. In terms of the Court's position, I think we've developed the information necessary to determine due process issues. If any arise, we have the information developed to the point that I think they can be dealt with by the Court.

Ms. Polin, do you have anything further?

Q (By Ms. Polin) Mr. Mitchell, at the beginning of this hearing, you had indicated that the only thing you would not be willing to answer is if it affected attorney-client privilege.

Are you saying that you do represent Governor Gregoire?

- A Ms. Polin, I was asked whether I had any comments or questions, and I said one comment would be that I would be somewhat circumspect about questions that go to the attorney-client privilege. I didn't comment on what I wouldn't answer, but if there are questions that are problematic, I may decline to answer them.
- Q Do you represent Governor Gregoire?
- A I am in the Governor's office.
- Q Do you have the authority to speak for the Governor and make decisions and comments on her decisions?
- A Depends on the question, Ms. Polin.

THE COURT: But the answers that have been given so

far, you're speaking on behalf of the Governor?

MR. MITCHELL: That's correct.

MS. POLIN: Okay. So, Your Honor, if I may, I have just a few ambiguities I wanted to clarify.

THE COURT: Very, very briefly.

- Q (By Ms. Polin) In your September 26th letter, which was well after our original May 30th deadline, you had asked me to advise you of the status of the case, and I'm curious as to why, if he had already been revoked, why were you curious as to the status of our case?
- A Ms. Polin, if you give me a moment.

THE COURT: Mr. Mitchell, let me interrupt. That I think goes to other issues. It doesn't necessarily go to anything I need to know at this point. So that doesn't need to be answered.

MS. POLIN: Your Honor, I'm trying to satisfy myself that he has, in fact, been revoked.

THE COURT: That's been asked and answered, and it's been answered by an individual who stated that he's speaking on behalf of the Governor. There may be matters and questions in your mind about it, inconsistency or no inconsistency or whatever, but they don't relate to the issue I need to deal with today in this case as I see.

So that, I mean, I don't intend this to be making a record for any other purpose.

MS. POLIN: And I understand that, Your Honor.

My only concern would be that up until Friday, there had been no indication that Mr. Bush had actually been revoked, and that would have been throughout Mr. Mitchell's letters. There have been no clarification, no official notification.

THE COURT: That's argument, and that can be postured as some point in time, but I don't need -- this isn't discovery. This is just generating information regarding the concern the Court has about what the Governor's position is on this matter, and I think that that's been developed, and we have it, and I don't see any need to go further.

If you have a question that relates directly to that, I'll allow it, but it's almost 20 minutes after, and I don't want to press the courtesies any further than we have to here.

Anything else.

- Q (By Ms. Polin) My final question would only be will we be receiving any official notification of this revocation?
- A Ms. Polin, I believe you received a letter in May of last year signed by the Governor to that effect.
- Q Has the DOC or Mr. Weston seen, has anybody received any definitive paperwork that Mr. Bush has been revoked?
- A Ms. Polin, the letter I have referred to has been

appropriately distributed.

Q And the letter that you refer to, also, says that Mr. Bush shall immediately be returned to the Washington Correction Center.

So then my question would, again, be why hasn't he been returned? Why hasn't there been any official notification?

- A Ms. Polin, I cannot comment on that. I have no idea what you're referring to.
- Q You have no idea about the May 4th letter?

  THE COURT: Well, I think we're done.

Mr. Mitchell, I want to thank you for your cooperation, and I would appreciate it, and on my personal behalf, the Court's behalf, as well as the parties, if you'd extend our appreciation to the Governor for your cooperation.

I do believe I should request or at least give the opportunity if there are any questions on behalf of the State for clarification within the narrow scope that I've defined.

MS. FITZGERALD: There are not, Your Honor. I believe within that scope, that really the inquiry was between the Governor's office and defense counsel for them to inquire. I have nothing then.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: If you would pause just a moment for us. Do you have anything within the narrow scope that I've defined? Anything further?

MS. POLIN: Not that I believe Mr. Mitchell would answer.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Good-bye.

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MR. MITCHELL: Good-bye.

THE COURT: For the record, my understanding of the information developed from this conversation with the Governor's office is that as of May 4th -- May 4th of '06, there was a -- an absolute revocation effective May 30, '06. Based upon whatever the foundation was or is available to the Governor at that time that that is a formal revocation, an official revocation.

Whether other matters have been done that tie that up more neatly or not or concerns that may be interesting towards the merits of any future problems, I don't know, but for purposes of this Court, it appears as though this defendant's pardon was revoked, and he is no longer carrying the status of being a pardoned defendant, and that the sentence has been reinstated, and that's the status of this gentleman at this time.

Now, we have other matters to go forward, and subject to the other answers that the Governor's office, as I understand the answer, that status won't change based upon the result of this trial. There are -- he left the door open for another hearing of some sort available to the defendant, but the defendant, from my understanding, and I'm not that familiar with the process, but it seems as though the defendant's only recourse would be back -- to go back in that process earlier that initially established the pardon. You have to go back through that process again. That was my understanding.

Any clarification to that?

MS. POLIN: Your Honor, if I can just make a brief Offer of Proof?

THE COURT: Sure.

MS. POLIN: Your Honor, the reason for the inquiries were we have significant doubts and issues as to in reality when Mr. Bush was revoked and whether or not this revocation is, indeed, final or if it were just conditional.

In one of Mr. Mitchell's letter, he, in fact, does refer to this as a conditional revocation. While he refused to answer many of my questions, I do, in fact, have four I believe letters all dated prior to the May 30th deadline. I have filed those with the Superior

Court file, and I believe Your Honor has a copy of them with my certificate, and, in fact, while he did not want to --

THE COURT: Let me just mention the conditional was I had thought that related to the caption on the pardon, I don't know what they call it, on the pardon. It's captioned conditional commutation, and I thought that he was referencing, and I could be totally wrong, but.

MS. POLIN: In Mr. Mitchell's May 23rd letter, which I, also, filed with the Court.

THE COURT: I got it.

MS. POLIN: This is to acknowledge receipt of my letter dated May 17th. Again, he, also, receives and he admits my May 10th letter, both of which would have been before the May 30th deadline in which you requested reconsideration of the Governor's conditional revocation of Mr. Bush's pardon.

At no time would Mr. Mitchell ever address any of my letters, and, again, this is prior to the deadline. So I have some very serious concerns, although now he states that Mr. Bush has been revoked, as to when he was actually revoked. No one has received official notification. I have a certificate from Governor Locke with the seal of the State of Washington that says that Mr. Bush had been pardon.

THE COURT: Conditionally.

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MS. POLIN: Yes, but I have nothing from Governor Gregoire that he has been revoked, and, in fact, Mr. Mitchell has never come on the record until the 7th or actually on the record until today saying that, yes, Mr. Bush has been revoked.

THE COURT: But that was the purpose of this information quest?

MS. POLIN: Yes.

THE COURT: And I know your Offer of Proof. What I'm wondering is there's nothing this Court can do to go back and challenge, look at, weigh the merits of whatever those matters are to determine whether the weight of those, the validity of those decisions or the impact, that's really not before me.

The only thing that's before me is this case, and the fact that the Governor's office has taken the position that the revocation is formal and official and effective as of May 30th.

Now, there may be a lot of questions about that, but I just wanted to know what his position was, not to weigh that position on the merits to challenge it or not because that isn't before me. You may argue that for purposes of a motion that will be considered by the Court, that motions that relate to the process of this trial.

MS. POLIN: And, Your Honor, my concern, though, would be as it would relate to this trial that it has affected Mr. Bush's right to due process for the trial. It has affected his right.

THE COURT: So are you making a motion? I need to know where we're going with this? Is this a motion of some sort?

#### (PAUSE IN PROCEEDINGS.)

MR. TRAGESER: I have one.

THE COURT: Ms. Fitzgerald, Mr. Trageser has requested leave to speak.

MS. FITZGERALD: I have no problem with that, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Mr. Trageser.

MR. TRAGESER: Okay. Thank you.

Procedurally, I have a question as to whether or not we're properly before this Court, to be perfectly honest with you.

A government pardon is a very odd and unique and rare thing, and I'm curious if the Governor has the power to pardon and then the Governor has the power to revoke, do we, also, need permission from the Governor's office to prosecute individuals who are out on pardon, their pardon,

by virtue of statute, and when they are revoked by order of the Governor and by letter -- by Mr. Mitchell that we've indicated that he will be directly sent back to prison, he is still, in my opinion, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and to somewhat a degree the power of the Governor, and I question whether or not the State has the authority to prosecute Mr. Bush without the permission of the Governor's office, and we don't have that. He's under the jurisdiction of the Governor, so to speak, that a jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections, and before we do anything, I think there needs to be specific permission to allow the prosecution of this case from the Governor's office, and we don't have that, and so I just wanted to make that record.

With all due respect to Your Honor, I don't believe we're properly before this Court, and I question whether or not the Superior Court has jurisdiction to prosecute an individual who is under the direct control of the Governor, which is really, in essence, what Mr. Bush is because Mr. Mitchell put on the record things are always open for the Governor to reconsider. He's under the jurisdiction of the Governor at this point, and I'm not sure that we can proceed.

It's, again, to say Mr. Bush being in federal custody or custody from another state and needing a Governor's

warrant. We really, in essence, this is not an extradition matter, but I believe we need a Governor's warrant or the Governor's position since she revoked him and ordered that he would go back to prison to prosecute Mr. Bush, and we don't have that, Judge, and without that today, I'd be moving to dismiss this case.

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THE COURT: I wonder what the last sentence of page two of the May -- I'm sorry -- of the January 4, 2007 letter, that sentence reads as follows:

"Mr. Bush is free to consider plea agreements and or go to trial knowing the Governor has revoked his conditional commutation."

Is that something the Court can take and infer from that that the Governor's office has released this defendant to this Court for these charges seeing as the statement based by my reading, "Mr. Bush is free to consider plea agreements and or go to trial," because I was concerned about that. I've been reading this more than once just to see if I could understand it a little better. I don't know.

MS. FITZGERALD: Well, I guess, Your Honor, from the State's perspective in light of what Mr. Mitchell said this morning, as much as I can interpret it, I believe if the commutation has been revoked, it's not under the Governor anymore. Mr. Bush is in DOC custody, and if I,

as the State, wants to prosecute someone in DOC custody, I merely do a transfer order, put him in this jail. Bond would be set, and we'd proceed from there.

I think the issue before the Court right now is whether or not this new information changes the defense position or if they need time to address with Mr. Bush where they're standing.

I think today is the first day that there's been, at least from the defense perspective, a definite answer, and I do know that the first time that I have heard definitively that the outcome of this trial.

THE COURT: Will have no effect.

MS. FITZGERALD: Will have no effect is certainly today. So I believe the issue before the Court is whether or not giving credence to due process for the defendant to be properly advised prior to trial is certainly the defense counsel wants more time to do that. I think the Court's going to have to consider that in light of the new information.

I don't know if they're going to make that request or not. We had discussed some of this Friday. If there was new information, they would want more time. From the State's perspective, we, obviously, our main goal in any trial, and I think it's any goal whether it's the Court, the State or the defense, is to have a clean trial and not

have to do something twice, and from the State's perspective that's my main concern.

If they want to challenge the jurisdiction issue, I think we need some time to explore that. I don't agree with Mr. Trageser, but, you know, if they want time to explore that, I guess the State's in the position of not having to do something twice that involves a child that, you know, we give some latitude to defense to explore what they want to based on the new information they have this morning.

THE COURT: Well, first of all, I think I've got, in effect, a motion that challenges the jurisdiction, and if it's a correct position, if the defendant is correct this Court doesn't have jurisdiction, then I wouldn't have any power or authority to do anything, grant a continuance or I couldn't do anything. I have no jurisdiction. I would be -- I would have no more authority than the man on the street to affect this trial.

So I guess the first thing is the Court would have to decide whether or not it has jurisdiction to do anything, and then if it does, to determine what it's being requested to do by the parties, and based on the merits, make a decision.

There's some decisions that the Court may have to make whether or not the parties even bring it. If the Court's

aware of circumstances it believes, and I don't know that need to be addressed whether the parties think so or not, the Court might have an obligation based on its power and its obligation to actually consider it on its own. I forget what they say -- I don't know what it is, but whatever the word is, it isn't in alter boy Latin, but it's there someplace, and that would be that I would have to possibly even address that.

So the first question jurisdiction, I think we have to determine it's been challenged. Is there a motion at this time to dismiss on lack of jurisdiction?

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, and if I may just supplement the record in support of this.

I'm referring to Mr. Mitchell's letter dated May 23rd to Ms. Conrad, last sentence, and as part of the court file, since there's no specific requirement that revocation hearings be held prior to the Governor exercise of her powers. If the Governor chooses to do so, I'll promptly advise you.

He's under the custody of the Governor. Once he was pardoned, he was under the custody of the Governor, and the Governor has the power, and they've admitted to reconsider their decision. Once he hit that pardon, he's just not under general custody of DOC. Once he got pardoned, he's under the custody of the Governor.

THE COURT: I'm sorry to interrupt. Would you just point to which page? I've got the letter. May 4th letter; is that right?

MR. TRAGESER: May 23rd letter from Mr. Mitchell.

THE COURT: Oh, May 23rd. That's why I wasn't finding it. I got the May -- are they in sequence here? I got a May 24th. I got a May 17th. I don't know if I have the May 23rd letter from the Governor, but I thought I read that.

Read that again for me, please.

MR. TRAGESER: May 23rd, '06 from Mr. Mitchell. Last paragraph, "Since there is" -- I begin I note the Clemency and Pardons Board declined to provide Mr. Bush a hearing on the pardon revocation because it doesn't have the authority to advise the Governor on the issue. So when we asked for the Clemency and Pardons Board that actually granted the commutation in the first place, we asked them for a revocation hearing because the Governor denied us one.

They deferred to the Governor, and they said we have no power now because he's under the Governor's pardon even though the Board was involved in the commutation in the first place. They defer to the Governor. They say they are powerless to do anything because this is the Governor's issue.

"So since there is no" -- and it goes on. "Since there is no specific requirement revocation hearings be held prior the Governor's exercise of her revocation powers, if the Governor chooses to do so, I'll promptly advise you."

I should, also, note that Mr. Bush, because of this alleged offense, there was a violation of his probation. When he was pardoned, he was on community custody. There was a detainer that was issued. That was lifted, and he had bond on this case. We set a bond OR hearing the day before we came in to argue, and we had the family members lined up.

The Governor, by virtue of her order, directed the DOC to detain him. He's on a Governor detainer whether she — whether anybody out of their office wants to call it a DOC detainer, and you'll see in our letter we accuse the Governor's office from inappropriately issuing the detainer, questioning the powers and the wisdom and the appropriateness of directing a CCO to issue a detainer who had just lifted the detainer on this man a couple of weeks prior.

So because of the detainer, because of what's referenced in this letter, he's under the jurisdiction of the Governor. This is a unique animal, so to speak, in terms of procedure, and I'm not sure anybody can do anything but the Governor at this point with all due

respect to Your Honor.

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THE COURT: Once the revocation has been emphatically stated and confirmed with definitive dates, doesn't that just back everything up to the way it was before the pardon?

MS. FITZGERALD: Well, if I can respond just to that point by Mr. Trageser.

I think that it's just appropriate to argue from a letter that would have been written during a time period when revocation was still an open question. After May 30th, according to what Mr. Mitchell said this morning, that was not an open question anymore.

THE COURT: It was an official revocation.

MS. FITZGERALD: She had made her decision, and as of May 30th the revocation had been, if you will, perfected, and he was no longer in a situation where the Governor was going to consider anything else because she had made her decision. Prior to her making her decision, I think defense may have had an argument, but that's not where we stand before this Court today.

Where we stand before this Court today is that this is a defendant who's back serving an original sentence, and I don't believe that and I especially believe that's the case if you take Mr. Mitchell's comments regardless of what happens in this hearing, it doesn't affect the

revocation. I take that to mean they have released any, if you will, hold or jurisdiction on making this decision, and if, you know, certainly if there's case law out there, there may very well be. I'm not equipped at this point to answer those issues.

THE COURT: We got to get this thing going. Last word.

MR. TRAGESER: We are held on Her Honor's detainer at
this point in time, and that's the fact, and that can't be
ignored, and since it is the Governor's detainer, again,
I'm not sure anybody can make a move without the
Governor's position.

THE COURT: If an individual is under Governor's retainer and commits a crime, you're saying the State doesn't have any authority to file charges and go forward with the prosecution of those?

MR. TRAGESER: That's what I'm saying. Yes, Your Honor, not without the Governor's position. I think they need a Governor's warrant akin to out-of-state matters. I think they need the Governor's permission is what I'm saying.

THE COURT: Do you have any position on that? I know we haven't briefed it, and it's kind of a, you know, in street terms for the Court, it's like huh? I mean, I recognize the jurisdictional issue.

First of all, the Governor -- at this time, the

Governor is claiming that this person is revoked and saying go back to jail, and it sounded from the information from Mr. Mitchell this morning as he had defined speaking on behalf of the Governor, it's in the ——it's analogous to a nunc pro—tunc. In other words, he's clarifying today what is in effect since May 4th to become effective May 30th. He said what the status is today in a way that that would have been the status from May 30th. That's how I understand his comment, and then in the January 4th letter, Mr. Bush is free to consider plea agreements and or go to trial.

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That, to me, is further indicative of the Governor's lack of jurisdiction over this trial, these issues and this Court's jurisdiction to hear them. That is what I'm hearing. That's how I'm seeing this without the benefit of briefing and without the benefit of any other authority. I'm just -- that's how I see it.

MR. TRAGESER: If this -- if we not to obstruct justice filed a habeas corpus petition today and filed it in the Appellate Court or Supreme Court of this state or even federal court, would the Court believe now that we're in the Court of Appeals, it has the authority to act, which is something because that is now our next move, and if we did file a habeas petition in both courts today, would Your Honor still feel as though it could move forward?

THE COURT: I'd question that.

MS. FITZGERALD: The habeas position would be under the cause number, if you will, of the original case. The habeas issue has to deal with the commutation, not this case.

THE COURT: Is he being held under this matter?

MS. FITZGERALD: Yes.

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MR. TRAGESER: On this, he's being held on bond.

THE COURT: On this case?

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, and we struck the hearing because the day before we set the OR hearing and had ten witnesses lined up, the Governor issued the detainer the day before the hearing after it was set, noted and briefed.

THE COURT: Could the habeas be issued on this case and the other one?

MS. FITZGERALD: I don't know what the grounds would be on this case.

MR. TRAGESER: Maybe.

THE COURT: I see the distinction, but I'm not so sure. I would be less comfortable. I can tell you that, and I would want some direction from the parties before I would be bold enough to continue them under those circumstances.

MR. TRAGESER: Then we would respectfully ask for a -- this is a very --

THE COURT: And the -- I'm sorry. Go ahead.

MR. TRAGESER: There's just no guidance, and we're just doing our best, and in order to do that, the appropriate amount of time I would ask for a five-day continuance to allow us the appropriate time to research the matter and to file the appropriate habeas petitions, which would take some time, Judge, and just are not standard forms, not an easy matter, but we would be able to accomplish that this week.

THE COURT: All right. You think you could? I mean, my understanding is you've got other matters to deal with, as well. I know you've got other cases that are going to be pressuring you, as does Ms. Fitzgerald. I say that in terms of down the road where we're going and we have a jury.

What do we do with the paneled -- the pool, not the panel. We don't have a panel. We have a pool. The pool of jurors wondering why they're not in here, and it's been 45 minutes since they showed up.

MS. FITZGERALD: Well, and, Your Honor, I think the distinction the Court made is an appropriate and an important one. There's a difference between having a panel and having a pool at least for double jeopardy purposes.

Again, I believe the law is pretty clear that unless you swear in the panel that will actually be the trier of

fact, jeopardy doesn't attach.

THE COURT: Could we release the pool or do we keep them attached to this case until it's resolved?

MS. FITZGERALD: The State's reference would be, Your Honor, to release the pool if the Court's going to consider the continuance just because we want to make sure that we have jurors that are here that in their minds want to participate and, you know, we will have gone over their two weeks of service.

They've now been sitting around, and I think my experience at least in doing trials is that jurors tend to come up with theories on their own and read things into long delays that can cause problems, and I don't think we're anywhere near getting to individual questionnaires with this issues.

My position on the continuance is, again, it's the State's position that if the Court has concerns about Mr. Bush's ability or his counsel's ability to properly advise him given the new information this morning, which I think at a minimum probably the newest information is that the outcome of this trial does not affect the revocation. I don't believe, and certainly I'll defer to defense counsel because they're much more versed in the letters, I don't believe in my recollection that's ever been stated in any of the prior correspondence. Certainly, that alone

is an issue that directly impacts decisions the defendant may make on this trial. I would agree that that's actually an issue directly related to what I viewed the Court's concerns were, which were that the defendant be in a position to receive effective assistance of counsel.

That's the only thing, at least from the State's perspective, that I think we have a position to take, and when I say State, certainly I'm speaking only for the State of Washington and the County and my office prosecuting this.

I've remained silent and have not gotten involved in a large extent to the commutation issue, but I do believe that that directly relates to this trial. To say that it doesn't have an impact is certainly new information that I don't believe defense had before.

A five-day continuance is brief. I would certainly be objecting to any time past that. I'll leave it to the Court's discretion. If the Court views in light of this new information and the defense requests certainly if the Court wanted briefing on the jurisdiction issue, I'd need some time to become versed in that, and so I won't object to the Court doing that if it feels in its discretion that there is new information that counsel needs to digest and work with Mr. Bush to make decisions.

Again, just for the issues that deal with this trial

and the defendant's due process rights for that, I think his notice of rights as to the effects of trial have been, if you will, perfected as of today, and I think only as of today, at least as to the issue of what will happen with regards to this trial, but certainly I would agree that's not information that I've seen before this date.

THE COURT: Just let me make -- well, go ahead briefly. Let me just make this comment so you know the Court's thoughts on this before you speak.

I don't know if you picked up on it, but the burning or nitro issue in my mind coming into this morning was what is the position on the revocation with different potential outcomes as a result of this trial. Where is the Governor's position? I wanted to know that. I wanted to know that because I felt the defendant had a right to seek counsel after the certainty of that was known to the Court.

Whether it's correct or whether it's not correct, it wasn't my inquiry, and it isn't before me. I can't deal with that, but what I can deal with is the fact that we have now a definitive position taken on the revocation that the Governor referenced in the May 4th letter of '06, and that is that it is official. That it is effective as of May 30th of '06, and that it will not change based on the outcome of this trial. Those were the real matters

that were in my mind.

Now, that creates other issues that need to be addressed I would expect by Mr. Trageser and Ms. Polin as they further advise their client, and they're in a pickle right now to make some decision. So that's where I am right now.

Regarding the jurisdiction, I feel that the Governor by their current responses, including the January 4th, '07 letter, does not have any intent nor expects nor has demanded that they have any jurisdiction over Mr. Bush at this point. I think I do have jurisdiction, but that hasn't been briefed. That's just based on comment and argument without authority, but with some pretty good facts, but I'm not certain on that.

My gut's telling me that this Court probably would have jurisdiction, and I'm not convinced it doesn't. I mean, I can't do anything on this if I didn't have jurisdiction.

So at this point pending a motion with further information, I'm proceeding as though I do have jurisdiction.

Now, Mr. Trageser, your comments. You're seeking -- what is your intent? What is your request of the Court now with their position that I just stated?

MR. TRAGESER: I am seeking a continuance to allow us to properly brief the issue and bring it to the Court's

attention. Ms. Fitzgerald's comments to the Court that she had no objection to a five day because she does not want to do it again, neither do we, Judge. Nobody wants to do this again, and I feel that the motion made by me hopefully is well taken by the Court.

I don't have the substance in terms of legal basis to back it up. We are operating in unchartered, undefined, no procedural rules, very little law to guide us on these issues. I'm not just throwing things at the Court. I really do, and I know the Court has made a finding that the Governor's office has now revoked, but this is akin to almost I would say that this Court needs almost a mandate from this from the Governor's office as it would from the Court of Appeals that is handling the matter.

The Governor has the legal authority to deal with revocation matters, and I appreciate your private attorney going on the record and indicating she speaks to the Governor, but we need -- and I know the Court has made its finding, but with all due respect, we almost, in my opinion, need a mandate from the Governor allowing us to operate.

If the Court grants the continuance, this is my position. I don't want to have a five-day continuance to be and then contact the Court Thursday afternoon on an emergency motion and saying, "Judge, we've been in the law

library for three days, and we're trying to put this together. We've been across the country for guidance and, you know, we're trying to put something together that has never been given before." If you do give us, I'm changing my position that it could be in five days.

THE COURT: Your position was the habeas was the five days?

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, but and even that may have been -THE COURT: Optimistic.

MR. TRAGESER: Optimistic. And so my position is that what we presented to the Court, I hope the Court doesn't consider to be stall tactics or frivolous in any way. I do think they need to be properly briefed.

So I'm asking for a 30-day continuance to properly brief all of the issues, as well as our office to make consideration of bringing a habeas because I have to tell you, Judge, regardless of Mr. Mitchell's position, and this is what Ms. Conrad was doing by making the Offer of Proof, there is a lot of documentation in the files that would lead people to believe that that revocation had not necessarily been official.

We contacted Dennis Weston, his CCO. They didn't have any notice of it. I don't believe the DOC had any notice of. I think Ms. Fitzgerald would comment she was not sure he was revoked.

THE COURT: By my statement, I wasn't saying that it was a correct analysis.

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: I was saying that it was the Governor's definitive analysis.

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Subject to whatever. I wasn't -- there was no -- I wasn't condoning that as somehow correct or I be correct.

MR. TRAGESER: And we just -- and had we believed in good faith that this revocation was official as they say it was, we would have brought the habeas at that time.

Hopefully, the file reflects due diligence on my office's part to understand from the Governor's office what was happening to Mr. Bush's situation, and I'll be honest with you, and I don't mean to speak to

Ms. Fitzgerald. If all the parties were here, including Weston, his CCO, everybody would say we were not sure whether or not this revocation had occurred. Everybody would say that in good faith, and it was —— and I think as a direct result of just a pure lack of communication and courtesy to respond to us from the Governor's office that has put us in this position. We have been trying and trying and trying, and so this position is not being brought at the last minute.

So I'm requesting a 30-day continuance to accomplish briefing and a motion to the Court regarding jurisdiction and to make consideration of a habeas, which we always have considered, but in my mind until today, I had not concluded that my client's revocation was effective, and there are a lot of reasons why the letters are ambiguous from Mr. Mitchell's office.

THE COURT: And it may or may not be. We don't know.

MR. TRAGESER: That's my request, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Whether it's effective or not, remains to be seen. What we do know the Governor's office intended it to be effective. That's what I needed to know.

Ms. Fitzgerald, there's been a Motion for Continuance of 30 days. Does the State object? I know you don't object necessarily to the continuance, but now we've taken a five day and popped a multiplier on it. So does the State have any comment to make referencing the request for a 30-day extension?

MS. FITZGERALD: The State will leave it to the Court's discretion knowing the Court may want that briefing to make decisions. I certainly can't impose into the mind of the Court.

The only thing I would ask if we're going to do this that we set up some sort of schedule for hearings in those things so that at the end of the 30 days if we're in a

position we're trying this case, that's what we do. We're getting close to this being a year old, and we have to, also, balance the fact we have a child witness that's waiting obviously.

So I'll leave it to the Court's discretion. I'm not sure what information the Court may want to make its decisions at this point.

THE COURT: Okay. Thanks.

You know, Mr. Trageser made a comment that we're in unchartered waters, and, I mean, there's a lot of ways to put that, but I think he's right. I haven't done any particular personal research other than very superficially only to the extent of what I needed to understand from my own purposes and this case and the due process questions that arose in my mind.

In my limited experience, and it's much more limited than the parties, I recognize that, but I haven't come across this issue before. I haven't had to deal with this issue before that we're dealing with now.

Because I haven't had any clear direction, what I really don't want is a rapid time frame that's going to reduce it so for efficiency purposes and it turns out it's not efficient. If we don't give it enough time, the time we've given it is kind of lost because then you're struggling to put together something you don't have a well

put together product with the understanding that you've had time enough to review it, analyze it, get it down on paper and submit it.

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So this can't turn into a rough and tumble alley fight with no rules and process to go on. I want to have some structure at least to understand where we're going, and I think to get that we've got to have a 30-day extension, and it doesn't -- it doesn't make me real comfortable because we have allegedly a victim throughout, a child, that needs to have this resolved, and that child's family and the people involved, and we have a defendant that needs to get resolved because there's a ton of stuff riding on it, but doing it time and time again isn't a resolution.

So I'm going to go with the 30 days. I do think we need a schedule of some sort. Lord knows we have enough to deal with without structure. We certainly need a schedule to at least have some structure on what we're getting and when. I've got some notes here that I'm not sure I'm understanding.

Yeah, February 5th is what I had looked at. The February 5th, the continuation date will be the trial date of February 5th of this year. Here's what I'm confused about.

I didn't understand what I was getting because it

wasn't well written. It was because it wasn't clicking in.

Now, regarding the scheduling, I guess before we do that, we have to know what is the goal here. This continuance is being given so that counsel can move -- so that defense counsel can have an opportunity to research and advise and work with his client or her client and properly advise them of where the legal status is now and what the option is and tactics should be and to provide time for the defendant to file any motions and briefing that they have regarding jurisdiction, regarding the issue of I guess it's primarily a jurisdictional matter that right now is concerning Ms. Polin and Mr. Trageser.

MR. TRAGESER: That's true, and I think due diligence on my office's part now dictates getting to the Court of Appeals on the revocation, and so now that I'm on notice, we need to, also, file our habeas petition.

THE COURT: And do that, and for the record, there was a couple of occasions Mr. Trageser referenced that this was not being done and hope it was not being interpreted by me as a delaying tactic, and I certainly don't.

I want the record to be clear. This is a very difficult matter with pitfalls all over the place that I've never been in, so I needed as much assistance in that area as I could get, and I rely on counsel to get it, and

I have no belief at all nor any reason to believe that there's been any delay.

Now, the schedule motions should be filed so that they can be heard I would think the first morning of trial or would you want to do it before that? If we did that, what we'd have to do is bring the jury in at 1:30. We may bring them in in the morning and do the questionnaires again, and any motions, if we did the motion before that time, we would know better where we are on Monday and where we are with jurors. I mean, should there be results, we don't need jurors to be brought in. It would be benefit to both the jurors and the parties and money being spent to bring in that panel, but I don't know where we -- Friday, is there any Friday time?

What is your thought on the motion with the understanding this thing is going to start on the 5th, when would be -- when would you think, Mr. Trageser, you would be in a position knowing you got to serve, give time for the State to respond and then your reply would have to be here at least a day before. I'm willing to shorten up on the time limits, but you got to give the State time enough to observe what you've done.

MR. TRAGESER: May we have 14 days from today's date? THE COURT: To get your stuff in?

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: And give the State five working days to respond? If it was 14 days, then you'd be getting that stuff in be due on the 19th. How about on the 16th? That's a Friday.

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, sir.

MS. FITZGERALD: I think the 19th is a Friday, isn't it, Your Honor?

THE COURT: I'm in February. No, we're February.

MS. FITZGERALD: We're February 5th for the trial.

THE COURT: Let me take a look here. Oh, I'm sorry. That's right. The Friday would be the 2nd. The Friday we're thinking of is the 19th. Thank you. I don't know what time we have. We have time on the 19th at 1:30. No, we don't need that. That's the time for the briefing you're talking about.

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: And then you're thinking about if you have five days, let's say you could get it in on the 29th, which would be a Monday to give you some, if you need, time to get that in with the reply to me by the 31st, if any is coming, and then on the 2nd of February, do we have any time on the 2nd of February?

THE BAILIFF: There's only a half an hour available on the 2nd of February.

THE COURT: When is that?

THE BAILIFF: I believe that was the 11:30.

THE COURT: Well, that's going to -- how much time would you expect to need?

MR. TRAGESER: To reply?

THE COURT: No, argument time.

MR. TRAGESER: Oh, argument. I wouldn't expect we would need more than a half hour to an hour, no more than an hour.

MS. FITZGERALD: If I've done extensive briefing on an issue, Your Honor, I'd probably just leave it up to the Court to let me ask questions, and I think a half hour.

THE COURT: Let's docket it with that half hour time slot, and if it goes over, we'll just have to keep the staff here and get it done or break for lunch and come back a half hour earlier.

MS. FITZGERALD: That's the 2nd of February for the motion?

THE COURT: February 2 at 11:30.

MS. FITZGERALD: And then defense counsel's briefing is due?

THE COURT: On the 19th.

MS. FITZGERALD: Okay. And the State's is due the 29th?

THE COURT: And the State's is due, yes, and Mr. Trageser has through the 31st for reply.

MR. TRAGESER: Okay.

THE COURT: That's a Wednesday.

MR. TRAGESER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: This is more of a mundane, but I'm going to go down and address -- we'll probably bring the jurors up here and let them know they're being released. The problem is they'll be coming in. They're coming in in batches of six. I don't want to bring them all down, and I don't want to hold them all here to wait until they're all here.

So I don't know if you want to be here when I simply tell them that this matter has been continued beyond the date that we're comfortable holding them, and the parties have allowed me and requested me to release them from their obligation and with the thanks of the parties and the Court for their service.

MR. TRAGESER: We would not need to be here for that, Your Honor.

MS. FITZGERALD: The State doesn't need to be here.

THE COURT: I'll take care of that.

MR. TRAGESER: Thank you.

THE COURT: So they understand this is not an issue that was created by the parties so that they don't get the feeling that they've been -- they didn't need to come back. I'll do the best I can in that regard.

.1 With that, are there any other matters we need to address before we're in recess? MR. TRAGESER: No. Thank you for the Court's time. THE COURT: You're welcome. We're in recess. (END OF PROCEEDINGS.) 

I, HEATHER M. GIPSON, do hereby certify:

That I am an Official Court Reporter for the Spokane County Superior Court, sitting in Department No. 11, at Spokane, Washington;

That the foregoing proceedings were taken on the date and place as shown on the cover page hereto;

That the foregoing proceedings are a full, true and accurate transcription of the requested proceedings, duly transcribed by me or under my direction.

I do further certify that I am not a relative or, employee of, or counsel for any of said parties, or otherwise interested in the event of said proceedings.

DATED this 2nd day of October, 2007

HEATHER M. GIPSON, RPR, CCR No. 297

Official Court Reporter Spokane County, Washington